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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/087,331	03/01/2002	Susan M. F. Davis	10012623-1	3076

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

BASS, JON M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3639

DATE MAILED: 01/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant

1. An After Final Amendment was received on December 28, 2005.
After further review of the arguments made by Attorney
Setter the finality has been removed. Prosecution has been
re-opened.

Status Of Claims

2. Claims 1-20 are pending in the current application. No
claims have been amended.

Response to Amendment

3. Applicant's arguments filed on December 28, 2005 have been
considered. Claims 1-20 are currently pending. No claims
have been amended.
4. Applicant argues that the prior art by US Patent 5,869,819
(Knowles) fails to disclose " a system that applies postage
and a network address to the postage filed on an object".
The Examiner respectfully disagrees with the applicants
characterization of the prior art's inventive concept.
Knowles teaches in figure 12A element 57A that a URL (which
is also considered to be a network address because it
stores data about the item within and is also used for

tracking purposes), code is used in as the equivalent of a network address. The URL code can be placed anywhere with in the package and it can function as postage. Therefore, it is inherent that the URL code can be placed in any location on the object. The process in which Knowles mentions deals directly with applying an URL code (network address) to an object.

5. The Examiner introduced a referenced by David Block (6,010,156) who discloses a mailing label system that includes address information and postage that depends on the weight of the item.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

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Claims 1-3, 5-16, and 18-20 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Carl Knowles et al. (US Patent No. 5,869,819) hereinafter referenced as Knowles.

As Per Claim 1:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, an information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element 53], comprising:

a postage system, [packaging routing, tracking and delivering system; fig.10, element 53] configured to apply postage, [information structure, fig.13B] and a network address, [URL code field, fig.12B] to objects in a postage field, [URL code field; fig.12A, element 57A] on the objects wherein the postage field comprises an area reserved on the objects for the postage and wherein the objects are delivered to users, [fig.13B; delivery field]; and

a server system, [fig.10, element 51; internet server] configured to receive a first message over the Internet from one of the users, wherein the first message is addressed to the network address, process the first message to retrieve information, and transfer the information in a second message over the Internet to the one of the users, [fig.10, elements 52,

53; package routing system shipping computer system], and
[fig.17, element 54, 56, 57; information accessed].

As Per Claim 2:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the
information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element
53] wherein the postage system, [packaging routing, tracking and
delivering system; fig.10, element 53] is further configured to
apply the network address in the postage field at a consistent
location on the objects, [assign the identification number a
unique status encoded information storage location; fig.14C] to
enable the users to automatically scan the postage field for the
network address, [fig.17, package delivery process].

As Per Claim 3:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the
information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element
53] further comprising a user system configured to automatically
scan the network address from the postage field, [package
delivery process; fig. 17] and [URL code field], generate the
first message, and transfer the first message over the Internet,
[use URL to access internet server to obtain information stored

and access internet server to send confirmation].

As Per Claim 5:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the information delivery system wherein the network address comprises an Internet address, [encode the URL, fig.14d].

As Per Claim 6:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element 53] wherein the network address comprises a domain name, [encode the URL, fig.14d].

As Per Claim 7:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, A method of operating an information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element 53], the method comprising:

applying postage and a network address, [URL encoded barcode symbol printed with corresponding human readable URL content , col.6, lines 5-10] to objects in a postage field, [URL code field, fig 12B] on the objects wherein the postage field comprises an area reserved on the objects for the postage and

wherein the objects are delivered to users, [read bar code label on package using package delivery computer system, fig 18A];

receiving a first message over the Internet from one of the users wherein the first message is addressed to the network address; [internet system that is connected to provider for programmed bar-code surfuring information, col.2, lines 61-65]

processing the first message to retrieve information; and

transferring the information in a second message over the Internet to the one of the users, [URL access the internet server and update the location within the system, fig.16C].

As Per Claim 8:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, further comprising applying the network address to the objects at a consistent location, [assign the identification number a unique status encoded information], in the postage field, [URL code field, fig.12A] to enable the users to automatically scan the postage field for the network address, [URL code, fig.8].

As Per Claim 9:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, further comprising automatically scanning the network address from the postage field, [shipping computer system, fig.10, element 52],

generating the first message, and transferring the first message over the Internet, [information storage location on a web page of the internet].

As Per Claim 10:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, further comprising receiving weight information, [information structure form, fig 13A] for the objects and applying the postage based on the weight information, [apply label to the package, fig.14e] and [read barcode label, fig 16].

As Per Claim 11:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the network address comprises an Internet address, [encode the URL, fig 14D].

As Per Claim 12:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the network address comprises a domain name, [the URL for www information resource, see fig 7B].

As Per Claim 13:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, further

comprising generating a postmark that includes the network address, [assign package identification number, fig 14C].

As Per Claim 14:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, further comprising paying a delivery service to cancel the postage using the postmark that includes the network address, [information structure, fig 13B] and [package routing subsystem, fig 53].

As Per Claim 15:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, a software product, [web link computer system having browser program having URL menu, col.4, lines 14-20] for a processing system that is configured to operate with a postage system, the software product comprising, [connects client system to the server, col.4, lines 8-12]:

application software configured when executed by the processing system to direct the processing system to generate an instruction to apply postage and a network address to objects, [assign the identification number a unique status encoded information storage location; fig.14C] in a postage field on the objects wherein the postage field comprises an area reserved on the objects for the postage, [URL code filed, fig 12B] and

wherein the objects are delivered to users, transfer the instruction to the postage system, [program having URL menu, col.4, lines 14-20] receive a first message over the Internet from one of the users wherein the first message is addressed to the network address, process the first message to retrieve information, and transfer the information in a second message over the Internet to the one of the users, [information electronically transmitted to sites over the internet, col.4, lines 34-40]; and a

storage media configured to store the application software, [URL access the internet server and update location information within the system, fig 16C].

As Per Claim 16:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the application software, [internet browser program, col.4, lines 14-20] is further configured to direct the processing system to generate the instruction to apply the network address, [apply the label to the package, fig 14E] at a consistent location in the postage field to enable the users to automatically scan the postage field, [URL field, fig 12A] for the network address, [assign the identification number a unique status encoded

information storage location, fig 14C].

As Per Claim 18:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the software product wherein the network address comprises an Internet address, [encoded URL, fig 14D].

As Per Claim 19:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the network address comprises a domain name, [encoded URL, fig 14D].

As Per Claim 20:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein the application software is further configured to direct the processing system to change the network address applied to the objects, [use the URL to access the internet server and update the location information within the system, fig 16C].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carl Knowles et al. (US Patent No. 5,869,819) hereinafter referenced as Knowles in view of David Block US Patent Number (6,010,156) herein after referenced as Block.

As Per Claim 4:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the information delivery system, [delivery system, fig.10, element 53] wherein the postage system, [packaging routing, tracking and delivering system; fig.10, element 53] comprises a postage printing device, [fig.1, printer, element 35]. But Knowles does not explicitly disclose:

The claim stating: a configured to receive weight information for the objects and apply the postage based on the weight information.

However Blocks teaches a "configured to receive weight information for the objects and apply the postage based on the

weight information" in column 5, lines 43-45 that the computer will determine the postage indicia requirements based on the weight, class and address information. Also see Figure 4 and all the elements that pertain to weighing an item.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Knowles' method and system in conjunction with Blocks' system and method with motivation to emulate an invention that deals with a delivery system wherein the postage is based upon the weight of the item, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin for a more efficient. (see Block column 5, lines 43-45).

As Per Claim 17:

Knowles discloses a method and system wherein, the application software, [internet browser program, col.4, lines 14-20] But Knowles does not explicitly disclose a method that:

The claim stating: further configured to direct the processing system to receive weight information, for the objects, generate a postage instruction based on the weight information.

However Blocks teaches a processing system to receive weight information, for the objects, generate a postage

instruction based on the weight information in column 5, lines 43-45 that that the computer will determine the postage indicia requirements based on the weight, class and address information. Also see Figure 4 and all the elements that pertain to weighing an item.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Knowles' method and system in conjunction with Blocks' system and method with motivation to emulate an invention that deals with a delivery system wherein the postage is based upon the weight of the item, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin for a more efficient. (see Block column 5, lines 43-45).

Response to Arguments

- Applicant's arguments have been reviewed and considered.

The Examiner introduced new relevant prior art that demonstrates postage being applied based on weight information.

Conclusion

Any concerns in regard to this communication, the examiner **Jon Bass** can be reached at (571) 272-6905 between the hours of 9-6pm

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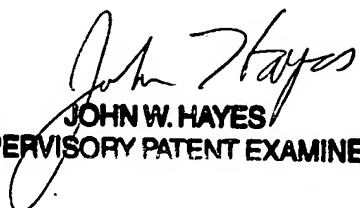
Monday through Friday. The fax number for the establishment where the application is being process is **(571) 273-6905.**

If an attempt to reach the examiner is unsuccessful for any reason, the examiner's immediate supervisor, **John Hayes** can be reached at **(571) 272-6708.**

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see [http:// pair-direct.uspto.gov](http://pair-direct.uspto.gov). Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-271-9197 (toll free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
C/O Technology Center 3600
Washington, D.C. 20231


JOHN W. HAYES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

